



THE JEWISH DAILY

**FORWARD**

August 1981

AV/ELUL 5741

## **A HOME OF OUR OWN!**



CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV . P.O. BOX 5640 . SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94101

(415) 621-2871



# A HOME OF OUR OWN!!

## CHAPTER TWO:

A lot of developments have occurred since the last Forward went to press.. We are making steady progress in our campaign to find a HOME OF OUR OWN!

1.) Our committees are in the thick of it-- meetings are scheduled, schedules are met, goals are set. friendships and working relationships are formed, and the work is getting done. Our Building Campaign committees are:

- Building Committee (with the site selection and building development sub-committees)
- Research Committee
- Public Relations Committee
- Dedications Committee
- Evaluation Committee
- Special Events Committee

2.) The central focus of the campaign is to locate an appropriate site. We are waiting for the final statistics to be computed for the costs of our number one site so far: the old Bush Street synagogue. By the time you read this article, the figures may be in and (we hope) we will have our answer about whether Sha'ar Zahav will have a Bush Street address. Clearly, this is the emotional choice of a majority of the congregation members.

Now, whether logic and purses (wallets?) follow emotion will be seen. Speaking of being seen, look on the front cover of this issue for a view of the Chabai Shalome (Lovers of Peace') Temple at Bush and Laguna Streets. Shanir Ophel did a brilliant job of familiarizing the building committee with this historic Venetian/Moorish/Victorian (with a little of this and that thrown in) wooden structure. It is really a striking structure in its original form. This "rebel" congregation broke away from Temple Emanu-El in 1865, built this building in 1895, disbanded in 1940 and managed to have a gay rabbi. I have now heard at least three different "bubba-meises" about this rabbi. Should the Bush Street synagogue be the choice of the Building Committee, you will be hearing a lot more about this structure, congregation and rabbi in the future. Regardless,

we have all learned a little more about our Bay Area Jewish heritage from this selection process.

3.) The Dedications Committee has completed a major share of its work, under the skilled direction of its chair, Ellis Jacobs and its vice-chair, Ellis Jacobs. Serving on the committee myself, I have been well aware of the difficult process involved in determining the features of our new synagogue, to be dedicated to individuals, and the values to be placed upon such dedications. The details of this committee's work will soon be made available with the printing of our first building campaign brochure.

4.) A giving guide, worked out by the committee guided by Mike Rankin and Nancy Meyer, has been established to assist members and friends in determining their "fair share" contributions.

5.) The Research Committee is still interested in receiving return forms that were enclosed with their June 12th letter, asking for the names and addresses of your friends and family members who may be interested in supporting the campaign. If you lost or misplaced your form, or if you have thought of additional people to add to the list, please send the names to: Research Committee, P.O. Box 5640, San Francisco, CA 94101. THINK SOME MORE!

6.) The Public Relations Committee is in the midst of creating a list of Friends of Sha'ar Zahav who will add to our fundraising credibility. You will be amazed by the number of friends we have when we need them. Media interest is growing. Our talented and hard-working chair, Cathy Nelson, is busy creating a brochure for the campaign.

7.) The Research, Public Relations Evaluation and Special Events Committees are always interested in having you contribute (AKA add your 2¢) your talents. Please call Walter Leiss, our Campaign Chair, at (415) 989-8350 to sign up.



# HOME...

8.) Saving the best almost for last: In an informal gathering of some of our members that pre-dates the actual kick-off of our fund-raising drive, nearly \$100,000 was pledged to the campaign! Don't skip over that figure: Almost \$100,000 pledged already! According to our skilled campaign consultant, this is "a wonderful start that is just a beginning."

9.) Finally, the "Sominex" Committee 'blessed' me with a dream last Friday night (this is the only committee allowed to work on Shabbat). It goes as follows: As media coordinator for the campaign, I was called into a room with various congregation leaders to witn-ss the handing over of a check for \$400,000 for the building campaign by . . . POPE JOHN PAUL II! From Sominex Committee to Fundraising Committee??!! Well, at least some of our dreams come true!

- Mark Feldman

## PICNIC & WALK SET

Join Pete Tannen, an official volunteer guide for Friends of Recreation and Parks, for a picnic lunch in Golden Gate Park Rose Garden, followed by a 1½ hour public historical walking tour of the Strawberry Hill area of the Park. This tour will include such famous landmarks as the cat feeding station, the ruins of Sweeney's feeding station atop Strawberry Hill, the exterior of the Pioneer Log Cabin, the new Taipei Pavilion, and the mysterious Monastery Stones, among other attractions.

Meet at north end of the Golden Gate Park Rose Garden at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 15 and bring your picnic lunch, something to drink and your walking shoes. The Rose Garden is just inside the park from the intersection of Fulton Street and Park Presidio (near 14th Avenue).

Following the picnic in the Rose Garden, the walk will start at 2:00 p.m. at the north end of the Rose Garden. You are welcome to come to just the picnic, just the walk, or both. Call Pete Tannen at 861-4045 if you have any questions.

- Pete Tannen

## JOIN FREEDOM RUN!

On Sunday, October 18, a run beginning in San Francisco will go clear through the heart of Moscow.

The Freedom Run for Soviet Jewry, an AAU-sanctioned ten kilometer race, will follow a course through the Presidio and past the Soviet consulate general. The event, modelled on similar and highly successful races in Los Angeles in Tucson, is intended to further educate the public about the plight of Soviet Jewry and to build public pressure on the Soviet Union to recognize the rights, including the right to emigrate, of Soviet refuseniks. The run, which is being co-sponsored by the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry and the American Jewish Congress, will include a shorter course for folks with shorter breath, as well.

The run will begin at 10:00 a.m. and, according to volunteer coordinator Greg Smith, manager of Menorah Park, there will be plenty of time to finish the race and have a picnic lunch in the park before going to the 2:00 p.m. rally, being organized by the Jewish Community Relations Council, in front of the Soviet consulate general on Green Street. If you would like to volunteer your help, call Smith at 929-7912.

A number of Congregation members are interested in organizing an official Sha'ar Zahav presence at this important event. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters and during announcements after services.

## SPPR NEEDS BOOKS

From the newsletter of the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights, we learn that there is a severe shortage of gay and lesbian literature in Israel. Does this surprise anyone? Probably not. If you would like to send materials in response to their desperate plea, mail them to S.P.P.R., P.O.B. 16151, 61161 Tel Aviv, Israel.

## PLEASE NOTE

Both Rabbi Allen B. Bennett and Sha'ar Zahav president Paul Cohen are on vacation as this issue of the Forward goes to press. Their columns will resume on their return.



## FROM OUR FAR-FLUNG CORRESPONDENT

A small and hardy (but tasteful) delegation of Sha'ar Zahavniks descended on Philadelphia over the Fourth of July weekend to attend the Sixth International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews. Some 250 people found their way to the City of Brotherly and Sisterly Love from all over the U.S., Canada, England, Israel and Bermuda. Naturally, the conference organizers had a hard act to follow after last year's spectacular in San Francisco, but the intrepid Philadelphians overcame all obstacles and sponsored a wonderful event. Tremendous credit is due to Ed Traitman and Jerry Silverman of our sibling congregation, Beth Ahavah, who were the principal planners.

Conference highlights included a thought-provoking keynote address by Seymour Kleinberg, author of Alienated Affections: Being Gay in America and an equally stimulating sermon by Rabbi Linda Holtzman. Friday evening services were held in the magnificent sanctuary of Congregation Rodeph Shalom, the first Ashkenazi congregation to be established in the United States. The structure is designed in the Byzantine style, and can best be described as Philadelphia's answer to our own Sherith Israel.

A schedule of forty different workshops, on topics ranging from the plight of the Falashas to psychotherapy and body awareness training, from anti-Semitism in the 80s to Jewish genealogy, offered discussion topics to satisfy almost any interest. A rainy

Fourth of July led to the cancellation of the city's fireworks display, but a Havdalah cruise on the Delaware River sailed anyway, buoyed up by the high spirits of the Conference participants.

During the business meeting of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations, Barry Coleman of Los Angeles and Michael Levine of New York were re-elected to their positions as Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary of the Congress Management Committee. Louie Hirsch of Los Angeles was elected to the position of Publicity Secretary. The Seventh International Conference will be held next year in Los Angeles. A report on the status of negotiations with the Jewish National Fund over the ongoing dispute about our tree donation was made to the Conference plenary session. No progress appears to have been made through correspondence with the JNF. Consideration is now being given to initiating legal action, either in New York or in Israel.

And, with the close of the plenary, we bade a phond pharewell to phabulous Philadelphia. The Sha'ar Zahav delegation (Pete Tannen, Rob Montague, Aaron Cooper, Seth, Kurt Stutzman and Steve Klein) look forward to joining a vast throng of San Franciscans next year in Los Angeles.

- Rob Montague

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## ONEG, LTD.

I want to thank all members of the Oneg Committee for their support.

A special strategy session for the High Holidays will take place in September; the date, time and place will be announced at services. Since there is a lot to be done to insure that the Oneg Committee is ready for the High Holidays, anyone who is interested in helping (throughout the year, too!) can call me at 776-1289 evenings or see me after services any Friday.

- David Ben-Jacob

## JULY ONEGS

- July 3 By Richard Marks, in honor of gay and lesbian unity, freedom and pride
- July 10 By the Congregation, in honor of David Ben-Jacob, chair, Oneg Committee
- July 17 By the Congregation, for everyone's enjoyment
- July 24 By Joy Lavern, for everyone's enjoyment
- July 31 By the Congregation, for everyone's enjoyment



# AUGUST

# תמוז אב

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Rosh Hodesh Av א
2 ב	3 ג	4 ד	5 ה	6 ו	7 Shabbat Services, Eric Keitel ז	8 Shabbat Hazon ח
9 Fast Tish'ah be-Av Va'od Meeting ט	10 Newsletter Deadline י	11 יא	12 יב	13 יג	14 Shabbat Services, Rabbi Bennett Installation of Officers, Va'od יד	15 Shabbat Naḥamu טו
16 טז	17 יז	18 יח	19 יט	20 כ	21 Shabbat Services, Rabbi Montague כא	22 כב
23 כג	24 כד	25 כה	26 כו	27 כז	28 Shabbat Services, Rabbi Bennett כח	29 כט
30 Rosh Hodesh Elul ל	31 Rosh Hodesh Elul א					

## MEN'S GATHERING

The fourth annual California Men's Gathering will take place September 18 - 20 at Camp Hess Kramer in Malibu. The Gathering is for everyone, though there will some time and space set aside for men only. Rap groups, workshops and political action meetings as well as a celebration/dance and non-competitive games are scheduled. For more information, write to The Los Angeles Men's Collective, P. O. Box 25836, Los Angeles, CA 90025.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On Saturday, September 26, at 12:00 midnight, a Selihot ("forgiveness") service will be held at a place to be announced. The penitential prayers of this service provide an intensive preparation for the High Holidays. More information in the next Forward.



## RITUAL CALENDAR

- August 7    Torah Devarim: Deut. 1:1-3:22  
Haftorah: Isaiah 1:1-27  
 Shabbat Chazon  
 Eric Keitel, Services
- August 14    Torah Vaetchanan: Deut. 3:23-7:22  
Haftorah: Isaiah 40: 1-26  
 Shabbat Nachmanu  
 Rabbi Allen Bennett, Services  
 Installation of Officers
- August 21    Torah Ekev: Deut. 11:26-16:17  
Haftorah: Isaiah 49:14-51:3  
 Rob Montague, Services
- August 28    Torah Re'ei: Deut. 11:26-16:17  
Haftorah: Isaiah 54:11-55:5;  
                   I Samuel 20:18, 42  
 Birchat HaChodesh  
 Rosh Chodesh Elul  
 Rabbi Allen Bennett, Services

## AT LAST! GIFT PROBLEMS SOLVED!

Wonder no more. You can honor or memorialize any person on any occasion with a gift to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. A card will be sent to the person you name, and all this can be arranged with a telephone call to Ernie Weinstein at 566-1985. Even Neiman-Marcus runs out of stock, but your congregation has no such problems when it comes to this opportunity!

## BIRTHDAYS

Ed Leven	8/1
Joel Roman	8/2
Todd von Danniken	8/3
John Golebowski	8/7
Allan Gold	8/9
Steven Fritsch Rudser	8/13
Shamir Ophel	8/15
Burton Cutler	8/17
Paul Cohen	8/19
Ann Tyman Levy	8/20
Barbara Barrett	8/21
Michael Hart	8/21
Robert Schoen	8/22
Lawrence Happ	8/25
Robyn Meltzer	8/30
Marilyn Miller	8/30
Shelley Spiro	8/30
Sean Reynolds	8/31

## YAHREZEITS

Marvin Mauss, father of Kenneth Mauss	August 15
Ann Cohn, mother of Herb Cohn	August 21
Jack Mendelsohn, father of I. Jeffrey Mendelsohn	August 26
Emanuel Steiner, great grandfather of Aaron Steiner	August 29

## DONATIONS

Harold Parker  
 Sam Thal  
 Three Anonymous Gifts

CHANGE OF ADDRESS	
<p>If you're moving, please allow six weeks for processing time.</p>	<p>Attach current address label here.</p>
<p><b>NEW ADDRESS:</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____</p>	
<p>Mail to:            Sha'ar Zahav            P.O. Box 5640            S.F. CA 94101</p>	



CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV announces its

1st annual PRE-HOLIDAY ART FAIR, to be held

Sunday, November 15. For this major fundraiser, we are

seeking donations from a wide range of fine arts:

● JEWELRY

● ANTIQUES OF  
VALUE

● ART

sculpture  
paintings  
graphics  
prints  
photography

● FINE CRAFTS

ceramics  
stained glass  
rugs & tapestries  
art glass  
pottery

THE TALK OF THE TOWN



Be a part of this special event! Review your holdings—large and small—and select some choice items as donations to Sha'ar Zahav's ART FAIR. (Tax deduction certificates will be issued based on your estimation of value.)

To help us plan this event, please fill out and return this form (fold 3-ways, staple, stamp & send) listing the items you will contribute, along with your estimate of their current value. Donate as many pieces as you can! The crowd will be large, the tastes will be varied, the quality will be high.

DON'T DELAY. Return this form no later than August 31, and we'll contact you after that time. For information, questions, or to indicate your interest in being involved in the planning of the PRE-HOLIDAY ART FAIR, phone the Congregation at 621-2871.

I WILL BE PLEASED TO DONATE:

THE ESTIMATED VALUE IS:

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My name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ eve \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

send to:

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

POST OFFICE BOX 5640

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94101

